the number of sale points were raised from 1.11 lakh on 30.11.1981 to 1.47 lakh on 31.3.1984.

(7) The prices of all varieties of fertilisers have been reduced by about 7.5 per cent w.e.f. 29.6.1983.

(8) Favourable cost-benefit ratio has been ensured by increasing the support prices of crops to reflect the increase in fertilisers prices. Whereas in 1982-83, 4.19 kg. of Paddy were needed to buy one kg. of nitrogen nutrient, at present only 3.41 kg. will be needed as a result of reduction in price of fertilisers w.e.f. 29.6.1983 and enhancement of the support price of Paddy.

Tenancy reforms

2072. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have issued guidelines to various States to bring about comprehensive measures for tenancy reforms;

(b) if so, the names of the States where measures have been taken for tenancy reforms; and

(c) what are the details of the directives proposed to be issued to other States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) to (c) The policy regarding tenancy reforms as spelt out in the successive Five Year Plan documents approved by the National Development Council, emphasised:—

(i) Security of tenure by regulation of conditions of eviction and rent at 1|4th or 1|5th of the gross produce and

(ii) Conferment of ownership rights on the tenants.

The maximum rates of rent have been fixed as not exceeding 1|4th of gross produce in all States except in Andhra Pradesh (Andhra area), Haryana and Punjab.

Legislative measures have been taken for providing security of tenure to tenants by prohibiting ejectment except under specified conditions such as for non-payment of rent, misuse of land, sub-letting etc.

Legislative provisions have been made in extensive areas of the country providing for conferment of ownership rights on tenants or allowing cultivating tenants to acquire ownership rights on payment of reasonable compensation to the landlords. Some of the States have acquired ownership of land from the landlords and had transferred it to the tenants who have to pay a certain compensation to the State. These are Andhra Pradesh (Telengana Area), Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

Land reforms being a State subject under the Constitution, no Central directive can be issued. However, these were discussed in a Conference of State Revenue Ministers on 18.5.85 and the following general consensus on tenancy reforms has been communicated to the States for taking appropriate action:

(a) A detailed investigation may be undertaken in the States|UTs. to find out the extent and spread of informal tenancies and a drive may be undertaken by the official machinery with the help of Panchayats, voluntary organisations and local people to bring on record all insecure informal and oral tenants and share-croppers, irrespective of whether tenancy is recognised or abolished in the State. Unnecessary exemptions permitting leases and tenants, except for specified disabled categories, may be done away with Legislative provision, where non-existent, to be enacted for conferment of ownership rights on all categories of tenants including bargadars, excepting the exempted categories.

(b) Provision for barring lawyers in proceedings relating to conferment of ownership rights on tenants may be considered.

(c) States may consider moving towards a stricter definition of personal cultivation in order to prevent informal tenancies with cultivating possession.

(d) Andhra Pradesh (Andhra Area), Haryana and Punjab where the maximum rent is higher than the recommended level of 1/4th to 1/5th of the gross produce, may bring it down.

(e) Conferment of ownership rights on such tenants or lands held by religious and charitable institutions may also be considered by leaving sources of reasonable income for the institutions or by way of provision of an annuity to compensate for possible loss of land.

Rural employment programmes

2073. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 616 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th January, 1985 and state:

(a) what has been the progress of rural employment programmes upto June, 1985 in physical and financial terms, Statewise; and

(b) the extent to which these programmes have helped in reduction rural unemployment till June, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b) Statement-I indicating the Statewise funds utilised and employment generated under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during the Sixth Plan period upto 31.3.1985 is enclosed (*See below*) Statement-II indicating the progress of implementation of these programmes for the period from 1st April, 1985 to June, 1985 as per reports received so far is also enclosed. (*See below*) The total employment generated in terms of mandays from the beginning of Sixth Plan to June, 1985 comes to 21,212.74 lakh mandays.

Statement– I

Funds utilised and employment generated under National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during Sixth Plan as per reports received so far.

(Figures Rs. in lakhs—Mandays in lakh mandays)

Sl.No.	States/UTs	NREP		RLEGP	
		Funds utilised (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment generated (lakh mandays)	Funds utilised (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment generated (lakh mandays)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	18303.94	1853.25	3935.23	206.05
2	Assam	3319.83	262.22	888.81	47.96
3	Bihar	21918.79	1995.67	4279.25	336.52
4	Gujarat	6394.43	515.58	1595.71	83.74
5	Haryana	1914.91	349.80	355.61	7.90
6	Himachal Pradesh	1226.43	88.23	165.00	15.07